

# The Brooklyn Paper

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## Hot in Coney

Manhattan Beach mademoiselles Gamze Tezer and Amanda Savchenko thought they couldn't get any hotter, until they went to Coney Island and basked in last week's searing 90-degree heat.

# VALET OF THE LAND

## Barclays Center to offer bike parking for upcoming concert

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

There's no longer a need to sit in an exhaust-spewing box to get to Barclays Center to see the National when now you can ride there in the open air and have your bike parked by a valet.

Finally, the Barclays Center will offer free valet bicycle parking to those riding to Prospect Heights to see Brooklyn hometown band the National on June 5, in a clear acknowledgment that indie rock and bikes go together like peanut butter and chocolate.

"We knew the National would draw a big Brooklyn audience and it's going to be nice out, so

we thought we'd try something interesting," said Ashley Cotton, of Forest City Ratner Companies, which runs the arena. "We picked a show that seemed like a pretty good fit."

Bike advocacy group Transportation Alternatives will run the valet at the Barclays Center bike parking lot, which holds up to 400 bikes.

The valet will essentially be run like a coat check. Ticket holders pass off their bikes, locks, and helmets to attendants in exchange for numbered tickets, and then they will pick up their bikes when the show is over. Barclays Center will pick up the tab. Tip-



Famous as a magnet for trains and cars, the Barclays Center will welcome bikes to an upcoming National concert.

ping, of course, is optional.

Transportation Alternatives runs bike valets at a variety of events around the city, including Celebrate Brooklyn concerts at Prospect Park, Movies With A View at Brooklyn Bridge Park, and most recently, Prospect Park's controversial Great Googa-Mooga festival, yet another sign that Brooklynites are pedaling more than ever.

"There's a really diverse bunch of events that are attracting bike riders these days," said Michael Murphy, spokesman for Transportation Alternatives. "It's really blown up."

See VALET on page 5



Borough President Markowitz wants to turn the shuttered Childs Restaurant building into a Coney Island amphitheater.

## Marty's Childs play

### Reveals plans to turn landmark into amphitheater

By Will Bredderman  
The Brooklyn Paper

It's Marty's pop-up theater! The city will transform the landmarked-but-vacant Childs Restaurant building into a Coney Island amphitheater.

land Boardwalk into an amphitheater with a removable mesh roof and public park that will feature a high-end eatery and rooftop cafe — fulfilling Borough President Markowitz's once-controversial dream of creating a performance

space in his beloved Coney Island.

"I wanted to build something like this for many years, and the plans were put on hold because there were problems with the location," Markowitz said on See CHILDS on page 12

# A streetcar desire revived

## Brooklyn train buff's dream for Red Hook gets new support

By Natalie Musumeci  
The Brooklyn Paper

A transit buff's quixotic, two-decade-long quest to connect transit-strapped Red Hook to Downtown by trolley is really going to happen this time, the railway-loving legend claimed this week.

Bob Diamond, the frustrated streetcar advocate, who has failed to bring trolleys to the transit desert more times than we would like to remember, said his longtime dream of a Brooklyn bus-

tling with trolleys will finally come true because this time he's partnered with the Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation and concrete titan John Quadrozzi Jr. of Gowanus Bay Terminal.

"I realize now that no man is an island unto himself and that there has to be a number of organizations to make this happen," said Diamond, president of the Brooklyn Historic Railway Association. "Instead of Bob Diamond trying to do it alone, now I'm building a

grassroots consortium of other organizations whose neighborhoods would benefit from the implementation of the streetcar project."

The Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation will now take on the role of political and public outreach for Diamond, while Quadrozzi has helped redesign and enlarge his track route linking Downtown and the peninsula.

Diamond estimates that the implementation of the two-track streetcar project

along with the excavation of the old rail tunnel under Atlantic Avenue he famously discovered in the 1980s would cost \$50 million, and he will be seeking that money through federal grants.

And Quadrozzi can't wait to get it done.

"It's absolutely necessary and desirable," said Quadrozzi, who has followed Diamond's efforts during the past decade.

The concrete titan said the plan makes See TROLLEY on page 11



Ray Howell of the Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation (pictured) has teamed up with trolley activist Bob Diamond.



Long Island Restaurant — shown here without its iconic sign, which is being cleaned — may reopen in July.

## A SIGN OFF

### Atlantic Avenue eatery loses iconic sign, but might reopen

By Jaime Lutz  
The Brooklyn Paper

A glittering reminder of Brooklyn's past has come down, but it may just be a sign of great things to come.

The iconic neon lights that welcomed diners to the chrome-plated Long Island Restaurant on the corner of Henry Street and Atlantic Avenue has been taken down, but city records say it has been sent to the cleaners, and the beloved fixture could soon

come back.

Permits on the building say the sign was removed so it could be cleaned, but one of the building's owners only promised that the greasy spoon, which served hungry Brooklynites from 1951 until 2007, would reopen next month, then promptly hung up the phone.

Reports of the restaurant's imminent reopening have persisted for years, but no one has See SIGN on page 14



Dustin Joyce is sick of dashing to reach the four-car G train, but at least she's getting a good workout.

## Working out the G train

### Video spoofs subway gripes

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

It's the G-fit!

Riders of the historically erratic G-train say they are using its predictable unpredictability to get themselves in shape — or at least they are joking about it in a new Internet video.

Members of the Riders Alliance, which advocates for

straphangers, have produced a tongue-in-cheek, minute-long movie that highlights the body-toning benefits of riding the beloved-but-slow Brooklyn Local in an effort to let the MTA know that they're tired of the train's hurry-up-and-wait service.

The scene is set when a man, who says he's moved from See G-TRAIN on page 13



The Illuminator members Grayson Earle, Lucky Tran, and Hugo Genes project images onto the Domino building in Williamsburg.

## Protest projects

### Activists want a different Domino

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

The Illuminator strikes again!

The audio-visual "Occupy Wall Street" activists that famously proj-

ect their opinions on the walls of buildings as if they are calling out for Batman were in Williamsburg last week to let everyone know that they're not See DOMINO on page 13

## Scents of community

### Beyond the arena, Brooklyn's most distinctive odors

By Jaime Lutz  
The Brooklyn Paper

It makes scents: the Barclays Center has its own signature smell — presumably custom designed by some of the most discerning noses in retail. But Brooklyn doesn't really need egg-headed poindexters to make our air smell different, because we've got some of the most interesting, home-grown, locally-sourced, artisanal smells in the world.

Here's the top nine:

1. "Combatte," "Brooklyn Spice," "Like a Latte," "Italian Steam," in honor D'Amico Foods

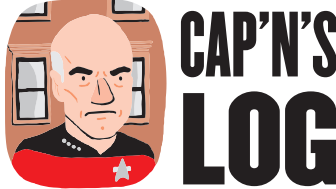
The thick, nutty aroma of roasting coffee at this Carroll Gardens legend is so pungent the smell alone, which has roused local residents to call 311 with complaints, could stain your teeth. Those people deserve a quadruple-shot black eye. The fragrant smell of good



The Gowanus Canal gives off one of the most infamous smells in Brooklyn. It's not pleasant.

Italian anything — coffee, pastries, pizza — drifting from a neighborhood store is quintessentially Brooklyn. Have you noticed that all Starbucks stores smell like pleather? That's not

even real leather! If you don't like the smell of real coffee, move to Manhattan and surround yourself with chain stores like Subway, which speaking of See SCENTS on page 14



STARDATE: -309592.64

To clarify: 1) I've never had a "slice" 2) I've been a Habs fan all of 4 weeks 3) I'm also a fan of Bloomberg's soda legislation.

— twitter.com/SirPatStew

This week, Park Slope's Sir Patrick Stewart — who played Captain Jean-Luc Picard on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" — sets phasers to kill large sugary sodas.

On the next episode: whatever Sir Patrick Stewart tweets about.



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# Urine trouble!

## Thief takes bar's urinal splash guards

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

Talk about taking a pee! A presumably latex-glove-wearing thief has stolen three soccer-themed urinal splash guards out of a Williamsburg pub's men's room during the past few months.

The urinal guards, which owners Conor Carolan and Chris Keller bought off a novelty urinal cake website, feature a pair of miniature goal posts in the middle of a green field.

"A few months ago, one disappeared," said Carolan. "Since then, a few more have been taken."

Banter Bar, on Havemeyer Street, is a European-style pub that opens early in the morning so customers can catch international soccer games live.

Last year, when the owners first bought the goal-post splash guards, customers showered them with praises, among other things.

"They became the focal point of the bathroom," said Carolan.

Carolan even believed patrons were so captivated by the guards, the bathrooms remained cleaner than they normally would be.

"People stopped writing graffiti on the walls,"

he said.

But then, a thief started stealing the goals and Carolan can't imagine why.

"Are they centerpieces on someone's dinner table, or what?" he said.

Carolan said that he and Keller are undeterred, and will continue to buy and install the mini-goals to ensure patrons hit the spot.

The brazen urinal robber isn't the first person to pilfer from a Brooklyn bathroom this year. Earlier this spring, someone lifted a brass toilet seat from Lighthouse BK, resulting in one of the best headlines in newspaper history.



Chris Keller, co-owner of Banter Bar, can't figure out why someone keeps stealing from their urinal.

# Mermaid Parade resurfaces

## Costumed Coney Island cavalcade saved from stormy disaster

By Will Bredderman  
The Brooklyn Paper

Fans have thrown a lifeline to this floundering mermaid.

More than 2,300 backers helped raise \$100,000 on Kickstarter to make sure the Mermaid Parade will march down Surf Avenue in Coney Island on June 22 — seven months after Hurricane Sandy nearly washed the 31-year-old partially clothed cavalcade away.

"It's my dream come true," said Dick Zigun, founder of the fishy fanfare.

The superstorm's surge smashed Zigun's headquarters at the corner of W. 12th Street and Surf Avenue, destroying his famed freak theater and forcing him to sink hundreds of thousands of dollars into repairs. Little was left over to pay for permits, insurance, and security for the swimsuit-clad spectacle — so Zigun turned to the internet for assistance.

"That's the way the people of Brooklyn, the whackos of New York City, people who care about alternative culture across America, that is how they contribute to things," Zigun said on May 3.

The campaign raised \$40,000 in its first three days, and reached its goal on May 30 — four days in advance of the June 3 deadline.



Generous donations helped keep Coney Island's annual parade of beautiful creatures from going extinct.

But the donors earned much more than the joy of seeing the pageant of partial nudity proceed. Creative friends of the parade offered sweet mermaid swag to big-money contributors. Some

190 people who gave more than \$100 will soon receive limited-edition prints from famed album cover designer Frank Kozik. Twelve others who gave upwards of \$175 will get to step into the Great

Fredini's Coney Island Scana-Rama — a three-dimensional scanner-printer that measures a person's dimensions and creates a statuette in their image. And one generous mermaid-phile who

gave more than \$350 will get to spend a day with award-winning photographer Harvey Stein, publisher of the pictorial anthology "Coney Island: 40 Years." Others will get prizes ranging from a tote bag and pasties to getting to ride in the parade, and everyone who gave more than \$13 will have their name appear on a "Thanks" banner in the procession. And the two still-unnamed biggest donors will get to ride on Borough President Markowitz's float.

Zigun thanked Markowitz and comic Judah Friedlander of "30 Rock" fame for creating video segments promoting the Kickstarter campaign.

"They took the time out in their busy schedules to film pieces for us," Zigun said.

Zigun has bestowed the title of this year's "King Neptune" upon Friedlander for his efforts. The funny man will ride on the "royal float" with this year's "Queen Mermaid," Carole Radziwill of the Real Housewives of New York — another partner in the parade.

Zigun said he and his staff were already making preparations for the aquatic event.

"We're going to stop complaining now and put on a parade," said Zigun.

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# Windsor Terrace gets a new, old bookstore

Owners of Slope’s Community Bookstore branch out

Melissa Goldin  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Windsor Terrace bookworms bemoaning the loss of a beloved old-school tome shop will soon be able to celebrate a brand-new chapter in the neighborhood’s literary tradition.

The owners of Park Slope’s Community Bookstore will continue the legacy of the former Babbo’s Books on Prospect Park West by opening the new Terrace Books in Babbo’s storefront between Prospect Avenue and Windsor Place later this month.

Babbo’s closed on May 15 after six years in Windsor Terrace, and the new owners say the neighborhood still needs a place for readers to get their fix of ink on paper.

“We think [independently-owned] bookstores are crucial to neighborhoods,” said Ezra Goldstein, who co-owns the Community Bookstore with Stephanie Valdez.

The new Terrace Books will sell mostly used books, as Babbo’s did, while the Community Bookstore will continue to hawk new items. Given that they cater to two distinct needs, the two locations will have a symbiotic relationship — buyers can order books from one shop and have them delivered to the other.

Babbo’s owner Leonora Stein said she approached



Photo by Brent Osborne

Ezra Goldstein, co-owner of Community Bookstore in Park Slope, loves book so much that he is set to open a new location — named Terrace Books in Windsor Terrace — with co-owner Stephanie Valdez later this month.

Goldstein and Valdez about expanding into Windsor Terrace shortly after she decided to close the store. The Com-

munity Bookstore hadn’t been planning to expand, but claimed this opportunity was too good to pass up.

And Stein said she’s glad they were willing to take over.

“It was very important to me that it would stay a bookstore,” said Stein.

Valdez and Goldstein also believe independent bookstores serve an important role in any community. They claim that books and information are quintessential parts of the vibrancy of any neighborhood. Not only can independents choose books specifically for a neighborhood, but they can be involved in community affairs. They can also create a real sense of personal interaction, by acting as a gathering space or cornerstone of the community, making the niche filled by independents more than skin deep.

“We don’t treat books like a commodity,” said Goldstein. “We treat them like precious objects.”

Valdez and Goldstein decided to change the store’s name because they felt Babbo’s, which was named after Stein’s father, was too personal. They originally planned to give it the same name as their Park Slope location, but instead decided on a name that is representative of the neighborhood.

“It had the right ring to it,” Valdez said of Terrace Books. “And it had the community feel that we were going for.”

# Library hosts read-a-thon

By Danielle Furfaro  
The Brooklyn Paper

A group of bookworms who fear the city will cut funding to the Brooklyn Public Library next year will hold a “read-in” at the Central Branch this weekend to get the word out that it takes green to keep free books flowing.

Participants will read from their favorite literature for 15-minute increments from 4 pm on Saturday to 4 pm on Sunday in



Photo by Paul Martinka

Budget cuts will be protested at the main branch of the Library.

hopes of sending a message to Mayor Bloomberg, who is proposing to cut funding to the borough’s book-sharing club by \$106 million. Library backers say the 35 percent cut will force the library to slash 1,400 positions.

“We’ve been doing the do-more-with-less thing for a while,” said Lauren Comito, a board member of Urban Librarians Unit, which organized the event. “Now it will be doing less with less.”

But the protesters admit-

ted that the mayor’s draconian cuts probably won’t go through, as a deal will be brokered with lawmakers that will minimize the damage.

“The City Council is always wonderful and gets most of it restored,” Comito said. “But still, even \$5 million or \$6 million adds up after a few years.”

Interested readers can sign up for a slot at the Save New York Libraries at [www.savenyclibraries.com](http://www.savenyclibraries.com).



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# Samaritan pays price for subway help

**84TH PRECINCT**  
*Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown*

A sneaky thief stole a bag from a traveler getting on the C train in the Jay Street-Metrotech station on June 1, police said.

The victim said he helped a strange woman board the train at 10:50 pm, and later noticed that his bag was missing. The victim said that he thought this woman was acting “awkward,” — putting on a fake accent and standing uncomfortably close to him — in order to distract him so that someone else could take the bag, which contained an iPod Touch, among other items.

**Pursed slips**

A crook snatched a purse from a woman who left it in the Clark Street train station on June 2, police said.

The woman said she got off the train and left the station near Henry Street to use the bathroom in the early morning, at 1:40 am. When she reboarded the train, she realized that she left her purse on the platform. When she went back to check on it, it was gone.

**Charity race**

A beggar grabbed money out of a generous person’s hands and ran away on the Manhattan Bridge footpath on June 2, police said.

The victim was on the bridge at 6:20 pm when a man asked for a dollar to feed his family. The victim tried to pay him a dollar, but when he was going through his wallet, the perp snatched \$80 out of his hands and ran off.

**Bloody hell**

A woman was assaulted by two men she knew in front of public housing on Bridge Street on June 2, police said.

While the victim was waiting for a bus near York Street at 7 pm, two men jumped out of a car screaming at her. They struck her with a glass bottle across the neck

**POLICE BLOTTER**

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and threatened to come back and shoot her, saying that they were members of the Bloods gang, according to police. The victim said the men knew where she lived.

**76TH PRECINCT**  
*Carroll Gardens–Cobble Hill–Red Hook*

**Clock cleaned**

An 86-year-old man threatened another person with a mop stick on June 1 on Woodhull Street, police said.

The victim was near Hicks Street at 4:15 pm when the man called him a “sick m-----” and assaulted him, said police.

**Pockets padded**

A 48-year-old man was caught on tape stealing an iPad, shirt, a debit card, and headphones from an office on Court Street on May 16, police said.

The crime happened at the business near Sackett Street at 2 pm, according to police.

— **Jaime Lutz**

**68TH PRECINCT**  
*Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights*

**Run on empty**

A thief drove off with a car left running on 69th Street on May 31, police report.

The victim told cops he left his vehicle idling near Fourth Avenue at 3:55 am while he ran into a store. When he came back out, the auto was gone — with his wallet and socket wrench set that was inside.

**Off the rim**

A lowlife jacked the tires and rims from a car parked on 82nd Street sometime during the night of May 28 or the next morning, according to cops.

The victim said he parked the vehicle near 11th Avenue at 9 pm on May 28, and came back the next day at 3 pm to discover his wheels stripped to the hubs.

Money laundering

A crook swiped a woman’s purse at an Ovington Avenue laundromat on May 29, authorities allege.

The victim reported that she left her pocketbook on

hand with a knife. He woke up to find his brother also holding a pipe and threatening to kill him, police reported.

The victim’s 27-year-old brother was arrested and charged with assault.

**Designer attack**

Police arrested a 26-year-old man who they say beat a guy and threatened him with a knife before stealing his Gucci belt on Jackson Street on May 26.

The 21-year-old victim told police that he was between Debevoise and Kingsland avenues at 1:56 pm when the suspect, who he knows, punched him in the face and chest and put a knife to him before stealing his \$500 Gucci belt.

Police found the suspect with the belt, a hypodermic needle, a bullet and a bottle of drugs. He was charged with robbery, among other charges.

**Senior moment**

An irate landlady beat a delinquent Kent Street tenant with a chair on May 31 when the tenant refused to pay rent, said police.

The 77-year-old victim told police that she was sitting on a chair inside of her home between Manhattan Avenue and Franklin Street at 5 pm, arguing with the landlady, when the angry woman suddenly shoved her off of her chair.

The victim landed on her back and the landlady then picked up the chair and hit her with it, police reported. The victim suffered bruising to her back and the 67-year-old landlady was charged with assault.

**Ransacked**

A woman returned from a weekend out of town to find her Driggs Avenue apartment ransacked and her jewelry stolen on May 25.

The victim told police she got to her home between Kingsland Avenue and Sutton Street 6:30 pm and found it torn apart and her jewelry, gone. The woman suspects that someone with the key used it to get in the back door. Please have made no arrests.

**Sexual assault**

Police are searching for a 19-year-old man who they say sexually assault his ex-girlfriend on N. Fifth Street on May 28.

The victim told police she went to her ex-boyfriend’s house between Kent and Wythe avenues at 2:30 pm to pick up the belongings she left at his house. When she tried to leave he threw her on the bed and assaulted her, leaving bruises on her body, police reported.

**Holed up**

Someone broke into an Eckford Street construction site and stole more than \$11,000 worth of tools and cash on May 29.

The head of the construction company working the site between Calyer Street and Meserole Avenue told police he arrived at 7:45 am to find \$6,000 in cash missing, as well as a wet saw, screw gun, hammer, drill, laser cutter, and other tools. The victim believes that the burglar got in via a hole in the back wall.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

**90TH PRECINCT**  
*Southside–Bushwick*

**Double trouble**

A 40-year-old man was arrested for stealing two women’s purses, one on Oct. 5, 2012 on Grand Street and the other on May 20 on Bushwick Avenue, according to police.

In the first snatching, the victim said she was between Bedford and Driggs avenues at 10 pm and she left her purse — containing credit cards, cash, a flash drive, and a camera — hanging on the back of her chair.

When she went to pick it up it was gone. The suspect was caught on surveillance

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the counter of the business between Colonial Road and Ridge Boulevard at 1:30 pm while she loaded her clothes into a dryer. When she turned around, the bag had vanished — along with her \$20 and MetroCard inside.

**Big bash**

A burglar busted into a car on Fort Hamilton Parkway and stole the driver’s cash and green card from within sometime overnight on May 28, cops say.

The victim said he parked his sedan near the corner of 73rd Street at 8 pm, and came back at 8 am to see the front passenger-side window in shards, and \$300 and his identification gone.

**Caught in act**

A perp tried to break into a house on 79th Street on May 27 — but fled when a neighbor spotted him, police state.

The eyewitness told cops she was in her home between Seventh and 10th avenues at 1 pm when she saw the villain breaking into the house next door through a rear window. When the fiend realized he was being watched, he turned and ran.

**Big boost**

A thief lifted \$5,000 from an energy drink truck on Fifth Avenue on May 31, authorities say.

The driver told police he parked between 77th and 78th streets at 1:15 pm to make a delivery, leaving the already-broken lockbox full of cash behind the seat in the cab. When he came back two minutes later, he found his window jimmied open and the money missing.

— **Will Bredderman**

**94TH PRECINCT**  
*Greenpoint–Northside*

**Sibling rivals**

An angry man was arrested for attacking his younger brother with a knife while he was sleeping at his Debevoise Avenue apartment on May 29.

The 25-year-old victim told police he was sleeping at his abode between Jackson Street and Skillman Avenue at 2 pm when his brother stabbed his

video grabbing the purse as he sneaked by, said police.

The second victim said she was between Meserole Street and Montrose Avenue at 7 pm when she set her purse — containing credit cards, an American Express gift cards, and keys — on the floor.

The sticky-fingered man was again caught on surveillance tapes swiping the purse, cops reported.

**Hammered**

A 62-year-old man was arrested for assaulting a man with a hammer on May 21 on Metropolitan Avenue, according to police.

The victim said he was between Grand and Meadow streets at 3:23 pm when his assailant attacked him with the hardware tool, hitting him the face and head.

The victim received many blows, sending him the hospital for stitches under his eye and staples in his head, police say.

**Game gone**

Police arrested a 26-year-old man who they say robbed a house on Manhattan Avenue on May 27.

The victim said she and her family were leaving their home between Moore and Varret streets at 6 pm. She said she saw her sons lock their bedroom doors.

When the family returned at 8 pm, the victim said she saw one of the doors forced open and discovered her sons’ PlayStation 3, Sony video game camera, and a video game were missing.

— **Kelly Haight**

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# 5 things to know about NYC charter schools

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**How long have they been around?**

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**How do they operate?**

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**How do you apply?**

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**Where do they fit in the bigger picture?**

It’s all about **choice**. NYC operates a “portfolio system” of public schools. This includes magnet schools, zoned and non-zoned district schools, and charter schools.

Learn more about charter schools at **what.arecharterschools.com**

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# Private beaches, public money

## Tax dollars to restore Seagate’s hurricane-savaged shoreline

By Will Bredderman  
The Brooklyn Paper

They can have their beach and gate it, too!

The Army Corps of Engineers will spend \$30 million to restore the Hurricane Sandy-ravaged, private beaches of Seagate, a gated community on the western tip of Coney Island, and residents living on the other side of Brooklyn’s Berlin Wall say the influx of taxpayer money means they should be allowed to cross the border and take a dip.

“If you’re using public funds, you need to grant public access,” said Brighton Beach activist Ida Sanoff.

But Seagate representative Tami Maldonado argued that her neighborhood is entitled to the government groins, since neighborhood’s beaches have melted away thanks to a 1992 project that created stony wharves to fight erosion in Coney and Brighton Beach—a project Seagate opted out of because it would have forced the community to open its shore to the city’s masses.

“That project took away our beach and it was not supposed to,” said Maldonado.

And elected officials who helped allocate the cash for the project say the work on Seagate is necessary to keep



Sand-collecting rock jetties like this one (left) will soon come to the tip of Seagate — at the public’s expense. Some residents say that means the fence (right) should come down.

up the integrity of the connected beachfronts.

“The beaches are all one holistic piece, and when you reinforce in Seagate, you are reinforcing the whole Coney Island peninsula,” said Ilan Kayatsky, a spokesman for Congressman Jerrold Nadler.

The money will let the Army Corps of Engineers construct four rock jetties at the tip of the peninsula — similar to the ones that jut out every few hundred feet from the Coney Island and Brighton Beach waterfronts — to capture sand in the sea currents and add acres to the receding Seagate coast.

The Army Corps of Engineers confirmed that the project would strengthen the integrity of the entire landmass — but claimed it was

not required to restore Seagate’s sand.

“The work is primarily benefitting the original

Coney Island project,” said Corps spokesman Christopher Gardner.

Kayatsky said construc-

tion of the retaining jetties would begin later this year, and be complete inside of two years.

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## VALET...

Continued from page 1

But the decision by a large arena to add a bike valet represents a sea change, according to the bike advocate.

“It points to the increasing mainstreaming of bicycling as transportation all over the city,” said Murphy.

For now, this is just a test run to see if the valets are popular, said Cotton. But even if the Barclays Center does decide to continue with the service, chances are it will pick and choose which shows the valet parking will work with. It is unlikely that Barclays Center will offer bike valet for WWE Monday Night Raw or the Bernard Hopkins versus Karo Murat fight. And if Barbra Streisand ever comes back to the arena? Well, we’ll have to wait and see.

Still, Cotton said the bike valet fits in with Barclays Center’s campaign to alert ticket holders to the many ways to get to the arena, which makes sense from a business perspective.

“We are all about people taking public transit to Barclays Center and we know that people are walking to the arena in the highest numbers ever seen,” said Cotton. “When you’re thinking about real estate, it’s always about location, location, location, which also means transit, transit, transit.”

Murphy promised his company will definitely take better care of the valeted bikes than Fred and Carrie did in that episode of Portlandia, so they should be able to enjoy the concert without fearing for their two-wheeled pals.

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# The Fifth dimension

## Pizza-eating record shattered at hot street festival

By Will Bredderman  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

They might call it the Fifth Avenue Spring Festival, but it sure felt like summer!

The mercury neared 90 degrees Sunday, June 2, at the 20th annual celebration of the Bay Ridge thoroughfare — which stretches from 69th to 85th streets — but that didn't stop thousands from coming out.

"It was a little too hot, but people stayed," said organizer Chip "Festival Guy" Cafiero. "It was never packed, but it stayed crowded, which is what I like to see."

Cafiero said the high temperatures didn't put many people in the mood for food, but plenty of people came thirsty.

"Anybody who sold any kind of drinks did very, very well," said Cafiero. "The bottled water, the pina colodas, they had lines all day."

But some people brought



Photo by Steve Solomonson

Jamie McDonald crammed down a record-breaking 30 slices to win this year's competition.

their appetites.

Competitors lined up in front of Rocco's Pizzeria between 78th and 79th streets for their Ninth annual pizza-eating contest. Jamie "The Bear" McDonald, a visitor from Connecticut, crammed down 30 slices — obliterating 2012 champ Pat Philbin's record of 23 and a half slices. Philbin, a native of Moonachie, N.J., managed just 16 and a half slices this year.

McDonald — who learned of the contest from friends in the competitive eating community — said he was assured of victory from the start, and plans to return to defend his title next year.

"I told the guys at Rocco's I was fairly confident I would win, and my goal was to set a new record. So when I passed the record, I just kept going," said McDonald. "It was a fun contest, and a great crowd, and the guys at Rocco's are great guys."

# Museum gala sells boro

By Kelly Haight  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

The Brooklyn Children's Museum awarded three of its major contributors, created an "indoor marketplace," and showcased Brooklyn businesses at last Wednesday night's gala, themed, "Ignite the Imagination."

Chancellor of the New York City Department of Education Dennis M. Walcott, award-winning author and illustrator Javaka Steptoe, and Fairway Market president William E. Sanford were celebrated at gala — held at Three-Sixty in Manhattan — for their many contributions to the museum, children, and community at the gala.

"These three men have worked alongside institutions like ours to be able to really have a deep-rooted connection to what they do and the community, and it mirrors the principles that the museum stands for," said Rhea Smith, spokesperson for the museum.

She said the gala helped the museum reach its fundraising goals, and with the funds and the continued work of the honorees, and



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Raquel Brown, who worked for the Brooklyn Children's Museum as a young girl, meets Butch the green iguana.

others like them, they can further help "enable children to imagine a better life for their family, a better education and a better world."

Fox 5 New York anchor Dari Alexander hosted the gala as master of ceremonies, and the event showcased an "indoor marketplace" that

featured several local businesses, including Pine Ridge Vineyards, Fairway Market, Bareburger, Dinosaur BBQ and Golden Krust Bakery, among many others.

The Brooklyn Children's Museum encourages the importance of children using their imaginations for posi-

tive growth and change for a better tomorrow, which Walcott, Steptoe, and Sanford have all strived for in their work, said Smith.

The museum celebrated 114 years of education leadership, environmental stewardship, and community building.

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(718) 260-2500 The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings June 7-13, 2013

# Monsters ink

## Gallery celebrates 10 years of ghoulish drawings, art

By Kelly Haight  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Artist Frank Russo is as Brooklyn as they come, but he adorns one of his newest wood cutouts with a southern confederate flag.

The graphic work of art — a large, red monster-face with the blue and white starred “X” across it — has a deeply personal back story for Russo.

He was adopted from Dallas, Texas and raised in Brooklyn, but didn’t find out until he applied for a passport at the age of 21.

“It came as shock, but then I felt this kinship to the South,” said Russo. “It’s weird because artists will do weird stuff and never explain it, but this piece, [‘Dr. Tex’], I do like to talk about a lot.”

Russo said the wooden face reflects his dual personality: who is he and who he could have been.

“The rebel flag reflects in my art the rebel mentality,” said Russo. “I push the boundaries in my art and like to live on the edge. The face has a tribal feel, that was a nod to the [Texas] tribe I could of been a part of instead the Brooklyn tribe I am a part of.”

Russo’s “Dr. Tex,” along with many more of his pieces, and that of nearly 100 other artists including Fernando Carpaneda, L’amour Supreme, Drew Maillard, Joe Simpko, Dave Brockie, and Kristen Ferrell, are being shown at MF Gallery — the gallery he and his wife, Martina Secondo Russo, own — during its 10th Anniversary Extravaganza. The opening party celebrates 10 years since the artistic love birds opened their gallery, originally in the Lower East Side before moving to Brooklyn.

“When we first started we didn’t know if we’d last five, let alone 10 years; it’s a milestone,” said Secondo Russo.

To celebrate, the artists featured are selling all their artwork for a greatly reduced price of \$100.

“We wanted to give something back to our loyal collectors, we know they can’t afford to pay hundreds or thousands of dollars, but they want to be able to collect from our



Surrounded by art: Artists Frank Russo and Martina Secondo Russo are celebrating 10 years of MF Gallery showcasing underground art, including their own.

artists,” said Secondo Russo. “And the artists wanted to honor this milestone with us and some of the artists did specific pieces for the show just for us.”

MF Gallery is the scene of Brooklyn’s teeming underground art community with art inspired from pop culture, often including healthy doses of the macabre and twisted childhood dreams of monsters and ghouls.

“They’re all monster faces inspired by

’80s pop culture — all the things they spoon fed us in the ’80s — like He-Man, Silver-Hawk, and Thundercats,” Russo said of his wood cutouts.

“What I like best about art and preserve about my art is the gross-out factor from the ’80s. It was cool then — boogers, snot, slime, and monsters. It’s less politically correct now, and I think that’s something we should bring back. Everything is so restrictive now.”

Ten years later Russo has a family of his own — and one more adopted family.

“It’s a deep and talented sea of artists [in the show],” Russo said. “There’s so many people that we work with, and it’s people digging and scraping for everything, and it keeps us going...like a family in a way.”

Tenth anniversary celebration at MF Gallery [213 Bond St., between Butler and Baltic streets in Gowanus, (917) 446-8681, mfgallery.net]. June 8, 7-10 pm.



Mermanatomy: The author agonized over every muscle in this rendering of a mermaid’s anatomy.

# Chimeras gone wild

## ‘Scientist’ mixes man with animals in novel

By Colin Mixson  
The Brooklyn Paper

Mermaids don’t exist, but they could.

A New Jersey author and illustrator is celebrating the release of his new novel, a fantastic, forgotten medical journal of a deranged, Victorian-era surgeon with strange ambitions, at the powerHouse Arena bookstore in DUMBO, where the writer will gladly answer questions — such as how best to sew extra nipples on a live badger and stuff like that.

“The character, he’s kind of a scientist who went a little mad scientist-y,” said E.B. Hudspeth (pictured right), author of “The Resurrectionist: The Lost Works of Dr. Spencer Black.”

“At one point he puts wings on a beagle, and calls it, ‘Darwin’s Beagle.’”

On the surface, Dr. Spencer Black’s story may sound like the 2010 shock-horror film “The Human Centipede” with a little of Rob Zombie’s “House of a 1000 Corpses” mixed in for good measure — and it is — but



within the paper tomb’s artificially weathered pages, there exists a wealth of highly imaginative and anatomically feasible

illustrations of fantastic creatures that never existed.

The strength of the art, the author contends, is compelling enough, considering all the bizarre critters Mother Nature has cooked up over the aeons.

“What I found really interesting doing these drawings is, you break it down enough, you say, ‘Why not?’” said Hudspeth. “Why couldn’t a mermaid have adapted in its own special ways; there are so many strange mutations in nature.”

See SCI on page 10

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# WHERE TO GO

## EDITORS' PICKS

### FRIDAY

June 7



#### Guitar solo

Electronic guitarist Ben Greenberg takes complex riffs akin to metal shredders or blues heroes and stretches them out over long trance-like pieces that bend space and time in his experimental and virtuosic "Hubble." It's like Philip Glass if he were a head banger.

8 pm at Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (917) 267-0363, roulette.org]. \$15, general, \$10 members, seniors, students.

### SATURDAY

June 8

#### LA girls

Three savvy sisters from San Fernando Valley make up the '80s-heavy band that's taken Los Angeles by storm. Their vocals are not overpowering, but are infused with a leather jacket Michael Jackson attitude, and their instrumentation is fast, easy, and catchy. Expect lines at this concert where limited tickets will go on sale at the door.

11 pm at Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave., between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369, www.brooklynbowl.com]. \$15.



### SUNDAY

June 9



#### Crime in the city

He's got a bad liver, his idea of romance is messing with his landlord's wife, and his career as a cop is over. In the Brooklyn Film Festival's closing night, the film "Cut to Black" will treat audiences to a black-and-white noir about a broken man with one last mission — to save a girl lost in a seedy underworld.

8 pm at Windmill Studios [287 Kent Ave. between S. First and S. Second streets in Williamsburg, (718) 384-7300, www.brooklynfilmfestival.org]. \$12 general, \$10 students, seniors.

### TUESDAY

June 11

#### Lit cliques

Join literary intellectuals talk about literary intellectuals who had a huge falling out after one of them decided to write a book making fun of a bunch of them. The discussion will revolve around Mary McCarthy's notoriously vicious satire "The Oasis."

7 pm at Word Bookstore [126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, www.wordbrooklyn.com]. Free.



### THURSDAY


June 13



#### Time to shine

Remarkably gifted women are getting murdered in this novel, as a time traveling man wreaks violent havoc over different eras. But one lady survives and strikes back, in Lauren Beukes's "The Shining Girls." Celebrate the release of this novel and meet the author.

7 pm at BookCourt [163 Court St. between Dean and Pacific streets, (718) 875-3677, www.bookcourt.com]. Free.



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# The stages of hell

## Williamsburg theater puts on ‘Inferno’

**By Vinson Cunningham**  
for The Brooklyn Paper

It’s hell-month in Williamsburg.

An upcoming reworking of Dante Alighieri’s “Inferno” will rely on music and video to tell the pious poet’s fiery tale. The bare-bones adaptation, which is presented as part of Sound Scape, the Brick Theater’s June-long festival featuring the often overlooked work of theatrical sound designers, will use masks and puppetry

along with lighting and sound effects in an attempt to share the story with 21st century Brooklyn — not an un-sinful city by any means.

“I think the piece is still highly relevant today,” said director Michael Feld. “We keep running into it in different ways — it says a lot about where we are as a society and as human beings.”

Feld hopes that the deployment of spare multimedia elements — instead of an elaborate visual presentation — will give the production

an unexpected power.

“It’s just us — we’re not even using a set,” he said. “It’s simply movement, video, and sound. Sound, especially, can really burrow into the spirit of Dante’s text, I think.”

The ensemble hopes, ultimately, to explore the farthest reaches of humanity’s potential in the world.

“By showing the audience the worst and darkest parts of themselves, and of all of us, we can also hint at the best,” he said.

And Alighieri’s Italian

hell-tour isn’t the only old favorite getting an overhaul at the Brick’s festival.

In “Lighthouse Tryptych,” directors Stephanie Lane and Jamie Watkins will stage a choreographed adaptation of Virginia Woolf’s signature work, “To the Lighthouse.” Scored by composer Mark Van Hare, the performance will mine each of the modernist classic’s three main sections for thematic and emotional content.

“It’s such an interior narrative,” said Lane, a Barnard grad who conceived an early version of the show after falling in love with the novel’s famous dinner-table scene. “Mark’s score evokes so much of the feeling that Woolf conveys with words. She communicates things I’ve always known to be true, but couldn’t have articulated so well. I hope we can spark that same recognition in our audiences.”

Another literary undertaking, “The Beckett Cycle,” will present experimental workshop presentations of several of Samuel Beckett’s lesser-known, and seldom-produced, pieces for radio and television. Producer Andy Sowers, who will also direct the allegorical radio play “Words and Music,” is excited to show a



**THEATER**

**Sound Scape at the Brick Theater** [579 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg, (718) 285-3863, [www.bricktheater.com](http://www.bricktheater.com)]. June 7–19.

### BAR SCRAWL

By Bill Roundy

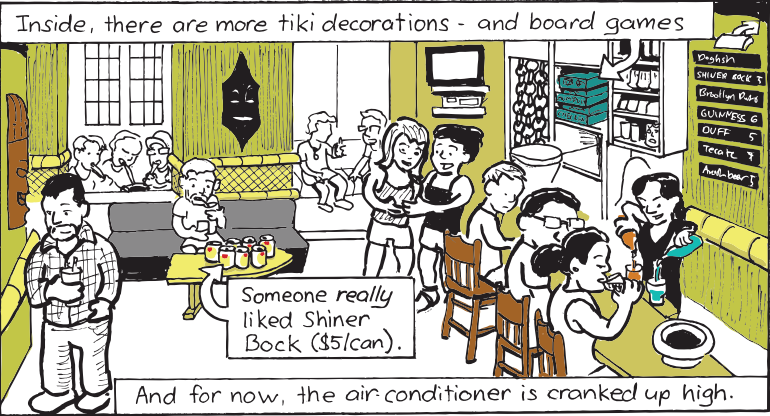


Their signature Zombie (\$8) comes from a slushie machine, is super-sweet and strong, and was exactly what I needed on a scorching afternoon.

And the straw gets a boost of high-octane rum

It's not fine mixology, but the drinks are brightly-colored fun, and mostly just \$5.

And the 'Scorpion Bowl' (\$26) serves four!



**Zombie Hut** [273 Smith St., between Degraw and Sackett streets in Carroll Gardens, (718) 875-3433]. Open Sun–Thu, 5 pm–2 am; Fri, 5 pm–4 am; Sat, 2 pm–4 am; Sun, 2 pm–2 am.

## Ice, ice tasty

### Brooklyn’s fanciest cones

**By Anna Wendt**  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklynites looking to cool down with a sweet treat this summer will find two shops focused on one thing: building a better ice cream.

On one hand, there’s Ample Hills’ hand-crafted approach, applying good-ole-fashion blood, sweat, and tears into their imaginative ice cream, and on the other hand there’s Blue Marble’s strict adherence to industry standards for organic foods.

“Ultimately, there’s not a secret recipe to ice cream,” said Brian Smith, owner of Ample Hills Creamery. “It’s milk, cream, sugar and some people use egg yolks like we do. The real

secret is quality of ingredients, like in most cooking.”

Though clearly, it’s not that simple.

Ample Hills relies heavily on authentic flavors and ingredients — such as adding authentic St. Louis Ooey Gooney Butter Cake pieces to their creamy vanilla — to satisfy people’s taste buds.

Not only does Smith create the ice cream from fresh, local ingredients (the milk, cream and eggs all come from New York farms) right in the store, but he also focuses on flavoring the ice cream with real foods. He concocts the store’s new cinnamon toast soft serve from what he calls “the actual essence



Photo by Matt Iannillo

**Cake ice cream:** Owner Brian Smith at Ample Hills Creamery serves up cones topped with crazy creations such as the Ooey Gooney Butter Cake 1, a favorite among customers looking for ice cream that screams different.

of toast” by toasting bread in the oven, steeping it in the ice cream, straining out the bread, and adding cinnamon and other spices. Smith goes through this process of extract-

ing flavors and infusing them into ice cream for a lot of flavors, creating ice cream that tastes like pretzels or marshmallows.

While Ample Hills isn’t far from the organic product Brooklynites look for, Blue Marble is the only USDA certified-organic ice cream store in all of New York. Achieving USDA organic certification means following rigid rules of what can and cannot be put in the ice cream.

But with all these bells and whistles, is ice cream ever good for you?

Kathleen Axen, a health and nutrition professor at Brooklyn College, said when it comes to the cold dessert, eat up and enjoy — in moderation.

“I don’t think of ice cream being inherently unhealthy,” said Axen.

“It’s just a fine food. It’s about the amount of it that people are consuming. I wouldn’t label it a junk food.”

Ample Hills [623 Vanderbilt Ave. at St. Marks Avenue, (347) 240-3926, [www.amplehills.com](http://www.amplehills.com)], Blue Marble [186 Underhill Ave. between Sterling and St. Johns places, (718) 399-6926].



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# SCI...

Continued from page 7

The sketches may have come from Hudspeth's pen, but they're meant to be the work of the author's tragic protagonist, Dr. Black.

The good doctor begins, in the book, as a stand-up, well-respected member of the established scientific, medical, and naturalist societies of the early 20th century, until he develops a fascination for the macabre when he discovers a half-man, half-goat hybrid in a pickle jar at a carnival freak show.

Instead of comprehending the man-goat as a trick of taxidermy, Dr. Black indulges his imagination and regards the creature as a product of the natural world. And so begins his adventure into strange anatomy, which devolves into a debased obsession. The good doctor vivisects creatures in his attempts to create what Nietzsche would have called, the Übermensch — albeit, in a more literal than philosophical way.

"He's not a bad guy," said Hudspeth. "He's trying to rediscover our ancestral past. He feels that human beings, by point of contrast, are insignificant and weak, and could be so much more. We could have the ability to fly and live much longer."

Things come to a head when Dr. Black — who naively never considers moral implications of his pet project — starts proudly displaying his sewn-together creatures in public, much to the outrage of everyone from scientists to clergy.

"He's ostracized at first by the medical community for the ridiculousness of his claims, and the ostracization increases to the point where the religious people get involved," said Hudspeth. "They don't like him tampering with god's creations."

But the continuously dense Dr. Black doesn't understand all the brouhaha. Even if some of his experiments, such as the winged beagle, weren't great successes, they are to the doctor living, breathing examples of what's possible.

"It's not proposed that it was ever able to achieve flight," said Hudspeth. "He was just happy it hadn't died yet."

E.B. Hudspeth's "The Resurrectionist: The Lost Works of Dr. Spencer Black," at [powerHouse Arena](#) [37 Main St., between Water and Front streets in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049, [powerhousearena.com](#)]. June 17, 7 pm, free, [rspv@powerhousearena.com](#).

# 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 10

**SALES AND MARKETS**

**BAY RIDGE GREENMARKET:** Shop, share recipes and meet the neighbors. And a great selection of produce, seafood baked goods, seasonal fruit, veggies, and flowers. This year the market is adding dairy, eggs, pickles, and cured meats. **Free.** 8 am–3 pm. Walgreens parking lot (Third Ave. at 95th Street in Bay Ridge), [www.grownyc.org/greenmarket-site/brooklyn/bay-ridge-greenmarket](#).

**TAG SALE:** New and used items. Rain dates are June 9, 16. **Free.** 9 am to 5 pm. Cadman Towers Building (101 Clark St. between Henry Street and Cadman Plaza West in Brooklyn Heights).

**SUN, JUNE 9**

**TOUR, VICTORIAN HOUSE TOUR:** Join the Flatbush Development Corporation at the Victorian Flatbush House Tour where participants are afforded a rare opportunity to view the interiors of the neighborhood's marvelous homes, celebrating the skilled workmanship and architecture of the past. Email for tickets. \$20-\$25. 1–6 pm. Temple Beth Emeth [83 Marlborough Road at Church Avenue in Flatbush, (718) 859-3800], [fdonline.org/housetour.html](#).

**MUSIC, JAZZ AND GOSPEL CONCERT:** Join the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music for a summertime celebration of jazz and gospel music with the conservatory's Jazz & Gospel Choir, Senior Choir, as well as other ensembles and special guests. **Free.** 1–4 pm. Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300], [www.bqcm.org](#).

**MUSIC, MARTIN MCQUADE:** The crooner honors the Tony Awards and is accompanied by pianist Pete Sokolow. 6–9 pm. Schnitzel Haus [7319 Fifth Ave. at 73rd Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 836-5600].

**MUSIC, JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION:** Plymouth Church hosts a Juneteenth Celebration featuring performances from Daptone recording artist Naomi Shelton and the Gospel Queens alongside Asthmatic Kitty's The Welcome Wagon. \$25 (\$20 in advance). 7 pm. Plymouth Church [57 Orange St. between Hicks and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, (347) 614-2818], [www.ticketfly.com/event/269819](#).

**CELEBRATE ISRAEL:** Israeli music and dance, interactive games, and exhibits and delicious food and giveaways. Free with museum admission. 11 am–2 pm. Kings Bay Y [3495 Nostrand Ave. between Avenues U and V in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 648-7703].

**SLAVIC SOUL PARTY:** Hlp Tot Music is hosting a fund-raiser for the Community

Roots Charter School with special talent Balkan brass. \$10 (\$8 children, \$35 family pass). Noon. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], [www.littlefieldnyc.com](#).

**TOP CHEF COOK-OFF:** Take it to the grill features the culinary skills of community men and their signature dishes. \$25 (Registration) Free admission. 12:30–1:30 pm. Agape Tabernacle International Fellowship [8712 Glenwood Rd. in Canarsie, (718) 649-5410], [mailto:mailto:www.administration@thewellatagape.com](#).

**CONCERT, DAVID BIND-MAN ENSEMBLE:** David Bindman, Wes Brown, Art Hirahara, Frank London, Reut Reggev, and Chris Di Meglio perform. **Free.** 1:30 pm. Kings Highway Library [2115 Ocean Ave. and Avenue R in Marine Park, (347) 891-0375].

**FILMS, 'GENERATION P':** In this "cross between Mad Men and an acid trip" (Roger Ebert), 20-something poet turned adman Babylen (Epifantsev) is vaulted to the forefront of post-Communist Russia's burgeoning capitalistic frenzy when he reveals a knack for corporate sloganeering. \$13. 4:30 pm. BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave. between Ashland Place and St. Felix Street in Fort Greene], [www.bam.org](#).

**CONCERT, BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC:** Performance featuring Erykah Badu and Yasin Bey. \$35-\$125. 7:30 pm. BAM Howard Gilman Opera House [30 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100], [www.bam.org](#).

**MON, JUNE 10**

**YOGA FOR SENIORS:** Seniors get fit at Marine Park. **Free.** 11 am. Nature Center [Ave. U and E. 32nd Street in Marine Park, (718) 760-6999], [www.cityparksfoundation.org](#).

**ENTERTAINMENT, DANCE FITNESS:** Instructor Jessica Phoenix brings her fiery energy along with the sounds of a live DJ in Dancehall Aerobics bashment party. \$15-\$100 for all 6 classes. 7 pm. Fitness Collective [278 Court St.], [fiyah-dancehall-aerobics.eventbrite.com](#).

**READING, "BIG BROTHER":** Author Lionel Shriver launches his new book. **RSVP. Free.** 7–9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], [www.powerhousearena.com](#).

**SALES AND MARKETS**

**FLEA MARKETS:** A fun filled afternoon where families can bargain hunt, clothes, memorabilia, and much more. **Free.** 8 am–3 pm. Richmond Hill [117-09 Hillside Ave. in Richmond Hill, (347) 709-7611], [www.richmondhillfleaemarket.com](#).

**TUES, JUNE 11**

**MUSIC, JAZZ AND BLUES CONCERT:** Brooklyn Conservatory of Music students will play renditions of blues and jazz classics and other



Brooklyn Arts Council

**Flower power:** Harborlore comes to a close on June 15 with performances and workshops for all ages on water lore found in stories, dance, drumming, and ritual, such as Kaina Quenga demonstrating the art of throwing the net in a Hawaiian fishing dance.

related compositions. **Free.** 8 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300 or email: [rfrank@bqcm.org](#)], [www.bqcm.org](#).

**FILM, BAD MOVIE BROOKLYN:** 'Cool as Ice': Vanilla Ice stars in "Cool as Ice," a rap-oriented remake of Laslo Benedek's "The Wild One." This event is part of the Bad Movie Brooklyn series. **Free.** 8 pm. Berry Park [4 Berry St. between N. 13th and N. 14th streets in Williamsburg], [https://www.facebook.com/Bad-MovieBrooklyn](#).

**SALES AND MARKETS**

**SIDEWALK SALE:** New and used items. Flea Market. **Free.** 10 am–4 pm. Guardian Angel Church [Ocean Parkway and Oceanview Avenue in Sheepshead Bay, (718) 907-3478].

**WED, JUNE 12**

**FUND RAISER, CARNIVAL:** Charity event with rides, games, food, music, dancing and raffles. Free with museum admission. 5–10 pm. St. Peter & Paul Epiphany Church [Wythe Ave. between South Second and South Third streets in Williamsburg, (718) 388-9576].

**ROCK OUT WITH OSEKRE:** The band is playing for an emergency benefit to save the Brooklyn Animal Foster Network. Come on down and help out the paws and pets. \$10. 7 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], [www.littlefieldnyc.com](#).

**TALK, DAVID STARK AND FRANCESCA CONNOLLY TALK DESIGN:** Co-hosts David Stark, renowned event producer, lifestyle expert and author, and Francesca Connolly, NYC editor of design blog Remodelista, will share their design expertise. **Free.** 7

pm. BookCourt [163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677], [www.bookcourt.org](#).

**MUSIC, TANGO ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE:** The Brooklyn Conservatory of Music Tango Ensemble will perform pieces of Argentine tango music from different times and styles. **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300 or email: [rfrank@bqcm.org](#)], [www.bqcm.org](#).

**FILM, ROOFTOP FILMS:** Interface Innovation: A collection of new short films featuring datamoshed moments and postmodern lifestyles, accompanied by new interactive works from the Brooklyn Experimental Media Center and the CITE Game Innovation Lab. **Free.** 8 pm. MetroTech Commons [5 MetroTech Center between Jay and Bridge streets in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 417-7362], [rooftopfilms.com/2013/schedule/interface-innovation-short-films](#).

**THURS, JUNE 13**

**ART, NEW ORLEANS IN BROOKLYN:** Brooklyn-based artist John Tebeau presents a selection of drawings and paintings inspired by his many visits to New Orleans, including living in NOLA for three months in 2011 and then again for a month this spring. **Free.** 5–8 pm. Two Boots Brooklyn [514 Second St. at Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 499-3253], [www.twoboots-brooklyn.com](#).

**TALK, SANDYLORE SYMPOSIUM:** Audience members will be invited to join in a discussion with traditional artists and humanities scholars about traditional ideas, practices, and approaches to managing the

trauma of natural disasters. **Free.** 6:30 pm. The Actors Fund Arts Center [160 Schermerhorn St. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Downtown Brooklyn, (718) 625-0080], [www.brooklynartsCouncil.org/folkarts](#).

**MUSIC, VOCAL WORKSHOP:** Participants will awaken their ability to perceive their bodies and the world around them through simple songs, vocal exercises, and movement. \$20. 7 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300 or email: [rfrank@bqcm.org](#)], [www.bqcm.org](#).

**MUSIC, JAZZ CONCERT:** The Claudia Quintet will perform their acclaimed 2010 album Royal Toast. A concert discussion with John Hollenbeck will precede the performance. \$15-\$25. 7 pm. Brooklyn Conservatory of Music [58 Seventh Ave. between Lincoln Place and Seventh Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 622-3300 or email: [rfrank@bqcm.org](#)], [www.bqcm.org](#).

**MUSIC, REGINA OPERA COMPANY:** Regina Opera Company features several soloists accompanied by pianist Maxine Feldman and flutist Richard Paratley who will perform selections from operas, Broadway and Italian songs. **Free.** 7 pm. Brooklyn Industries [8620 4th Ave. between 86th and 87th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 259-2772], [www.reginaopera.org](#).

**FRI, JUNE 14**

**FUND-RAISER, PENNY AUCTION:** Annual event presented by the Bay Ridge Mental Health Council benefiting the The Fort Hamilton Service of South Beach Psychiatric Center. Cost includes refreshments, extra tickets, specials and a birthday board. \$15. 7 pm. Fort Hamilton Mental Health

Services [8710 Fifth Ave. at 87th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 680-0006].

**ART, 'EXHIBIT A':** Join us for Exit Strata's first curated show, "Exhibit A", which seeks to not only address, but actively engage in, exhibiting, promoting, and modeling a range of strategies available to the creative practitioner. \$5. 8 pm. LaunchPad [721 Franklin Ave. between Sterling and Park places in Prospect Heights, (646) 494-7211], [brooklynlaunchpad.org](#).

**SAT, JUNE 15**

**MUSIC, ROCK CONCERT:** With his mixture of traditional and modern Spanish music and his extravagant mise-en-scene, pop-rock musician Óscar Dandy is said to always surprise his audience. **Free.** Midnight. Freddy's Bar [627 Fifth Ave. between 17th and 18th streets in Greenwood Heights, (718) 768-0131], [www.freddysbar.com](#).

**FUND-RAISER, CHARITY GOLF OUTING:** Join the Knights of Pythias in their fight against juvenile diabetes. Drive for the Cure. Men, women and beginners. \$50,000 Hole in One, \$25,000 to the golfer and \$25,000 to the charity. Breakfast, 18 holes of golf, barbecue, dj, raffles, entertainment and more. \$60 per golfer. 8:30 am. Riis Park Pitch and Putt [155th St. and the Boardwalk in Rockaway Beach, (917) 803-9208].

**RUN FOR SHELTER:** Join Brooklyn Teen Challenge for its annual run/walk 5K in support of addiction recovery. **Free.** 8:30 am. Brooklyn Teen Challenge [444 Clinton Ave. between Greene and Gates avenues in Clinton Hill, (718) 789-1414], [teenchallenge-brooklyn.org](#).

**BROOKLYN BRIDGE CUP FOR KIDS BLOCK PARTY:** Soccer tournament presented by the Young Rock Soccer Academy and Block Party featuring AudraRox, Roli Poli Guacamoli, The Trummytunes, City Billies and Love Funk, also food trucks and family friendly activities. **Free.** 9 am–5 pm. Brooklyn Tech Field (Clermont St. between Atlantic Avenue and Fulton Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant), [www.hiptot.com/bklyn-bridge-cup-block-party](#).

**TROPICALFETE:** Celebrate Caribbean heritage with entertainment and stories and a kids carnival costume party. **Free.** 9 am–4 pm. Barnes and Noble [267 Seventh Ave. between Fifth and Sixth streets in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], [www.barnesandnoble.com](#).

**TALK, ASSEMBLING AN HERBAL HOME MEDICINE CABINET:** During this workshop, participants will spend time discussing (and sampling) the herbal remedies that should comprise every family's natural medicine cabinet. \$45. 10 am. The Old Stone House [336 Third St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], [www.the-oldstonehouse.org](#).

**PLAY JAM:** Teens work with professional game designers and learn about key game principles. Free with museum admission. 10 am–5pm. YMCA Park Slope Armory [361 15th St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues in Park Slope].

**PEACE AND JUSTICE FAIR:** Peace Action Bay Ridge Interfaith Peace Coalition will host their Peace and Justice Fair where there will be information tables from Bread for the World, Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline, Habitat for Humanity, and other organizations. **Free.** 11 am–4 pm. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church [7420 Fourth Ave. between Bay Ridge Parkway and 74th Street in Bay Ridge, (646) 824-5506], [www.panys.org/BR](#).

**BLOCK PARTY:** Let your imagination soar and build with foam blocks. For all ages. Free with museum admission. 11:30 am. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], [www.brooklynkids.org](#).

**FORAGING NATURE:** Join with naturalist Wildman Steve Brill and hunt for Juneberries. \$20 (\$10 children). 11:45 am. Grand Army Plaza [Union Street between Flatbush Avenue and Prospect Park West in Park Slope, (917) 835-2153].

**EAST MEETS WEST:** The Shakuhachi Flute and Dragon Trumpet with Aaron Shragge. Free with museum admission. 1 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], [www.brooklynkids.org](#).

**WHAT'S THE SOUND?:** Be inspired by the soothing sounds of rain and then create a watercolor picture to take home. The setting is a welcoming environment for children with Autism Spectrum disorders. Space is limited. Free with museum admission. 2 pm. Brooklyn Children's Museum [145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Marks Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400], [www.brooklynkids.org](#).

**SPORTS, NYC MAYOR'S CUP BASEBALL ALL-STAR GAME:** The NYC Mayor's Cup Baseball All-Star Game will feature New York City's best high school seniors from the Public Schools Athletic League (PSAL) against the best seniors from the Catholic High School Athletic Association (CHSAA). **Free.** 2:30 pm. MCU Park [1904 Surf Ave. at W. 17th St. in Coney Island, (718) 449-8497], [www.brooklyncyclones.com](#).

**WATER LORE:** The end of Harborlore with performances and workshops for all ages. Storytelling by James Iovell, African drumming and singing by Grace Drums; Hawaiian dance by Kaina Quenga and Brazilian dance by Rita Silva. **Free.** 4–8 pm. Brooklyn Bridge Park (Main St. at Plymouth Street in Red Hook).

**SALES AND MARKETS**

**BAY RIDGE GREENMARKET:** 8 am–3 pm. See Saturday, June 8.

**TAG SALE:** 9 am to 5 pm. See Saturday, June 8.

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Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

A dastardly desecrator defaced this statue outside Saint Anselm's Church.

# Church statues defaced

## St. Anselm's in Bay Ridge hit with graffiti, offers reward

**By Will Bredderman**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

That's not the sign of the cross!

A graffiti vandal painted a large letter "X" on two statues outside St. Anselm's Church on the corner of 82nd Street and Fourth Avenue last week, but cops have faith they'll catch the culprit, who was caught on video in the act, and who now has a price on his head.

State Sen. Marty Golden, who is a member of the flock at St. Anselm's, is offering the \$1,000 in return for information leading to the capture of the criminal, whose dirty work was dis-

covered last Friday.

"I can tell you that we will not stand for such acts of religious intolerance in our community," said Golden. "We must bring this individual to justice."

Church members heading to morning mass on May 31 noticed the marking on the side of the crucifix in front of the house of worship — and discovered a similar desecration on the neck of the statue of the Virgin Mary in the church's prayer garden along 82nd Street, an area paved with cobblestones dedicated to deceased loved ones.

Church officials said the event

was a shock to the faithful, many of who are elderly, and wondered why someone would do such a thing.

"Those are sacred images to people of faith, and it's very upsetting to parishioners," said Monsignor John Maloney, the church's pastor. "Is it some kind of message, is it just a cowardly act, or the act of a foolish kid, I don't know?"

The priest contacted police, who came and reviewed the church's security tapes. The videos show a figure first drawing on the image of Christ, and then on the statue of Mary. Police have taken the tapes

for further analysis.

Golden's aide and fellow parishioner John Quaglione — who is challenging incumbent Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Bay Ridge) this fall — is putting up an additional \$250 reward.

At press time, police were not treating the defiling as a bias crime.

But it is not the first time a Catholic establishment in Bay Ridge has been targeted by vandals. Last March someone knocked over a statue of the Virgin Mary and beheaded the likeness of a lamb at Visitation Monastery on Ridge Boulevard.



# See the saint

The statue of Saint Cono, the patron saint of Teggiano in Southern Italy, is floated down Ainslie Street on its way to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church during the Festa di San Cono parade in Williamsburg on Sunday.

# TROLLEY...

Continued from page 1

a lot of sense considering Brooklyn's history with trolley's around the turn of the 20th century, and with the limited access to Red Hook.

"This would be the best way to do it," he said.

Ray Howell, a member of the Gowanus Canal Community Development Corp., said it jumped on board after considering the economic benefit Brooklyn's only trolley would bring to the Hook.

"Mostly everybody believes that Red Hook needs transportation improvements in order to develop in a healthy way," said Howell.

Diamond has tried to create a trolley service numerous times since 1989, but each time he claims he was hampered by the city, and by accusations that he is difficult to work with. He successfully laid tracks in 1999 for a line in Red Hook then, only to see his dreams crumble after the city cut off funding for a larger network of rails. Then, in 2011, the Department of Transportation said that bringing back the old streetcars would be too expensive.

Diamond says the route for the proposed streetcar line would be 1.6 miles starting near Fulton and Livingston streets by the Borough Hall subway hub. It would trek down Boerum Place and turn onto Atlantic Avenue. At that point, Diamond wants the line to move un-



File photo by Gregory P. Mango


Bob Diamond

derground towards Columbia Street through the Long Island Rail Road tunnel that runs from Court Street to Hicks Street.

The trolley would exit the Atlantic Avenue tunnel when it reaches the Battery Tunnel on Columbia Street. At that point, it would turn down Richards Street, travel along Beard Street passing IKEA, turn back onto Columbia Street, run along Bay Street, and turn onto Clinton Street until hitting Hamilton Avenue where it would travel along W. Ninth Street right up until its ending point at the Smith-Ninth subway hub.

Armed with his new coalition, Diamond things he'll be ready to seek city support after a new mayor is elected.


"We have a great chance of making this happen with a new administration," he said. "I think Red Hook will finally get the public transportation it deserves."



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121 DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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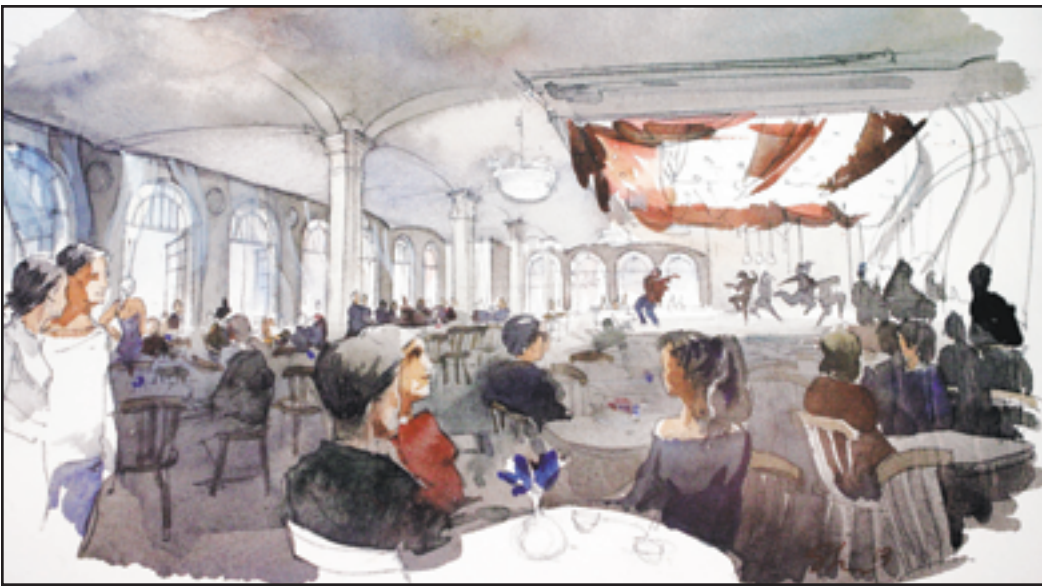


Photo by Steve Solomonson

CHILDS PLAN

The Childs Building will be reborn as a restaurant, with a stage for indoor and outdoor performances.

Continued from page 1 Tuesday. “This location will work for Coney Island.”

The city plans to spend \$50 million to buy the building and adjacent land along the Boardwalk between W. 21st and W. 22nd streets, from its owner, iStar Financial, knock a hole in the side of the restaurant to make room for a stage, and manicure the land around it that will act as a park when there aren’t any shows, and seating for 5,000 when there are.

iStar will then lease the facility from the city until 2025 for an unspecified amount of money, and rent out the venue, which will host up to 40 concerts from May to October, 15 of which will be free and 25 paid.

The semi-circular seating bowl will sit beneath a huge billowing tent, and be located outside the Childs Building on the side nearest W. 22nd Street. During the fall and winter, the tent fabric will come down, and the supporting trusses will light up.

In the winter months, sliding doors will keep out the cold as the stage continues to entertain customers at the year-round restaurant inside the building.

The restaurant will also have an open-air outpost on the roof of the building — much like the original Childs Restaurant.

The design team vowed to remain true to the original Childs design in the rest of the proposal. The plan will restore the classic Greek-, Spanish-, and maritime-influenced terra-cotta detailing along the Boardwalk and

W. 21st Street sides of the building. In addition, flags will once again fly along the rooftop.

“We’re able to blend the historic character of this building into the new elements,” said architect Randolph Gerner.

The amphitheater plan is the culmination of a longtime dream of Markowitz, who initially tried — and failed — in 2009 to get a modern building put in Asser Levy Park to house his free summer concert series in 2009. Public protest blocked the structure that resembling a potato chip, and Markowitz

announced his plan to transform the Childs Building into a performance space at his 2013 State of the Borough address.

Even residents who fought Markowitz original plan agreed that the beachfront location is a much better place to put a concert stage.

“This is a beautiful building, and it’s great to see that it will be used again,” said Ida Sanoff, who sued to block the borough president’s plan for Asser-Levy, successfully arguing that concert there routinely broke noise codes.

The original Childs Restaurant operated inside the building from 1923 to 1947,

serving straightforward fare with an emphasis on eggs and dairy. Weiss said iStar would hire an upscale operator to run the new eatery.

The proposal, which will also convert the now-empty lots on either side of W. 22nd Street will be combined into a public greenspace with lush lawns, winding paths, gardens, playground equipment, privately-run concessions, and seating areas, must go before the city Landmarks Commission and a city Land Use Review hearing, which should be completed by the end of this year. If all goes according to plan, the amphitheater would open in 2015.

Reversing a Coney trend

By Will Bredderman  
The Brooklyn Paper

Coney Island’s long-eroding amusement area is finally growing again.

The conversion of the Childs Restaurant, at the corner of W. 21st Street and the Boardwalk, into a restaurant and concert venue flies in the face of more than 60 years of city planning and development, which have whittled the entertainment area down to a fraction of its former glory.

In its early 20th-century heyday, the People’s Playground sprawled from W. Fifth to W. 21st streets, and was home to three magnificent theme parks — Dreamland, Luna Park, and Steeplechase Park.

Dreamland, built in 1904, burnt to the ground in 1911. Robert Moses — who, besides being the city’s mighty master builder, was apparently a world-class killjoy — decided in 1957 to move the New York Aquarium from Battery Park to discourage the amusements on Coney Island in favor of parks and educational facilities.

The original Luna Park, which spanned W. Eighth to W. 12th streets, suffered a pair of devastating blazes in 1944 and failed to reopen the next year. The city — still in Moses’s grip — took over the land and built the Luna Park Houses on top of it in the mid-1950s.

Developer Fred Trump — father of developer and television blowhard Donald Trump — bought the property and demolished the iconic funzone, hoping to build waterfront housing on the site. But the city refused to change the zoning, and the real estate mogul leased the space to small operators for several years, before the city bought it from him in 1969. It lay fallow until the city built Keyspan — now MCU — Park on the site in 2000.

In 2009, the city decided it wanted to encourage residential and hotel development, and pared the area zoned strictly for amusements down to a puny five-block stretch between W. 10th Street and Kensington Walk, along with a few small patches of land along the Boardwalk.

BROOKLYN BUSINESS STYLE

Rapid Realty experiences huge growth in 2013

BY JULIA LEWIS

Rapid Realty, the Brooklyn-based apartment rental agency in New York City, is expanding by leaps and bounds. New offices have just opened in Boston, New Jersey and Long Island, the company just won a couple of impressive awards, and it also leads the way in the number of...company related tattoos sported by employees!

Company founder and Chief Executive Officer Anthony Lolli, along with Chief Operating Officer Carlos Angelucci, recently picked up a 2012 Inc 5000 award (from Inc Magazine), celebrating Rapid Realty as one of the fastest growing companies in the US.

They also won the 2013 Franchise Satisfaction Award from Franchise Business Review. After surveying 25,000 franchisees across the country, Rapid Realty placed in the top ten of all franchises in the nation in their size category, which happened to also be the top ranking real estate agencies.

Rapid Realty currently has 56 franchises around the city, making them fairly small for their size grouping of 50 – 99 franchises in this competition. But they were not at all surprised they got this award, which emphasizes their extremely close relationships with their franchisees. Rather, they were surprised that other, more established franchises weren’t ranked higher. “We’re a new franchise concept, so we’re supposed to be making all the mistakes,” says CEO Lolli, who will also be featured in the next issue of SmartCEO magazine.

His close-knit ties to the franchise owners and their staffs has spawned a high degree of loyalty, which is expressed by large turnouts to Rapid Realty events, such



as working to refurbish homes in the Breukelen Houses in Canarsie, a public housing complex with 4,000 residents (pictured).

In addition, 51 agents have tattooed the Rapid Realty logo on their bodies. This enthusiasm comes from the culture of loyalty that Lolli has generated, with his rags-to-riches, American Dream rise in business, his willingness to help people learn and grow, and the fun and friendliness he and Angelucci exude.

They laugh when asked about the rash of Rapid Re-

alty tattoos. “I ask them ‘Why do you do it?’ and they say ‘I love the experience here,’” COO Angelucci says. “People tell me ‘I want to show it as a badge of honor, it’ll help me close deals. It’ll show my clients my commitment to real estate and to this company.’” Lolli adds, “It blows my mind to think that so many of our agents are so dedicated that they want to show it in such a permanent way.”

Lolli made a vow at a young age that his struggling single mom would one day have a beautiful white

mansion to live in, and that he would make them rich. The Lolli Mansion, as it is called, today sits proudly in Bay Ridge, complete with swimming pool. This out-of-the-movies story has inspired hundreds of local residents to reach for the stars and attain their own dreams through selling real estate and/or owning Rapid Realty franchises.

Lolli and Angelucci point out that rentals are often overlooked by other real estate firms as a strong area of business. But Rapid Realty sees it differently.

“Apartment rentals are more lucrative than sales,” Angelucci says, “because there is more inventory.”

He continues, “If we like someone and we think they’re the right fit as a rental agent, we’ll actually pay for their real estate licensing course. This works because we attract people who appreciate our investment in them, and they give us a good return on it. And then, the next step is to own your own Rapid Realty franchise. Many of our franchisees started out as agents with us.”

Angelucci explains that Brooklyn is trending towards “a strong rental market. Most new projects are for rentals. Banks are eager to lend money to rental related projects because of that stability.”

Brooklyn is a growing market, with new development, plenty of employment opportunity, and a reputation as a good place to raise a family, but this popularity can make it difficult to get an apartment. “People are staying put in the prime neighborhoods, so they become more expensive. So you look at neighborhoods further out, with better deals,” says Lolli. When asked about the next neighborhoods that will be popular, but are still affordable, Angelucci cites several. “Bushwick, Crown Heights, Bed Stuy, and Williamsburg. These are good neighborhoods.”

Lolli adds, “I’m loving the direction of Brooklyn in the next ten years. I love the Fourth avenue strip. Neighborhoods like Sunset Park and Bay Ridge and some of those surrounding neighborhoods are going to go up. There’s a lot of new development, and these areas are no longer a second choice, it’s becoming a primary destination for renters.”

Lolli has this advice for inexperienced prospective buyers: “If you’re looking to buy, get yourself educated online for free. You want to see how many times a house has been listed with different realtors. It’s priced too high if it’s going through three or four realtors.” He went on to advise caution: “You also have to think about your intentions. If you’re buying and holding, you can’t really overpay. If you don’t know what your situation is going to be like in the next two or three years, you have to be more

frugal. Don’t tie yourself up in one transaction and lose out on a couple of others you could have snagged right away.”

Angelucci also points out competition with institutional buyers. “Sellers are getting above their asking price. Before, a typical home would stay on the market for a year, now it’s staying on the market for less than three months. It’s easier if you have the financial wherewithal to get approved for a loan.”

The commercial market has tightened up. “There were landlords during the recession that were giving long leases, long term concessions. Now you’re lucky to get a five year lease,” says Angelucci.

The two do not predict another downturn in the immediate future, and note that “It’s a different market. Now there are institutional investors. This is a company that’s providing proper jobs, and infrastructure, and a game plan to rent out the properties at market value.” Lolli explains, noting the census bureau reported that more people stayed in New York in 2012 than moved out, for the first time in 50 years.

Rapid Realty started up three more innovative customer and landlord services this spring. They now offer renters insurance through a provider called Suite Protector; renters can also sign up for phone, internet, TV and utilities right through a Rapid Realty office via telecommunications and energy provider ACN; and landlords can get assistance in making their properties eco-friendly by working with Rapid’s new Chief Sustainability Officer Stephanie Barry.

Next in the works for the company: their first international office. Stay tuned!



# Albanese: Thompson flipped on monitoring

By Will Bredderman  
The Brooklyn Paper

A Democratic mayoral candidates forum in Manhattan Beach turned into a smackdown as two candidates clashed over the police department’s controversial monitoring of Muslims in Brooklyn.

Tempers flared when former Bay Ridge Councilman Sal Albanese accused former Comptroller Bill Thompson of flip-flopping on the New York Police Department’s policy of planting informants in mosques. Albanese claimed the Bedford-Stuyvesant native had denounced the program at a May 5 Muslim-American forum in Manhattan, but then changed his position to pander to the audience at the Manhattan Beach Jewish Center on May 29.

Albanese’s attack came after Thompson said he supported the infiltration of Muslim houses of worship if the police had reasonable suspicions of terrorist activity within, but that he opposed targeting any group just because of its religious beliefs.

“If they have legitimate



Sal Albanese

leads, absolutely they should follow up on those leads,” said Thompson. “But when it comes to targeting a single community because of who you are and what you believe, we are not going to do that under my administration.”

Albanese pointed to Thompson’s robust denunciation of the program at the Muslim, Arab, and South Asian forum at New York University just a few weeks earlier. At that event, the New York Post reported that the ex-comptroller called the measure “disgraceful.”



Bill Thompson

“To single a group out, to follow people, to infiltrate mosques and bookstores, to be able to do all of those things — is it right? Absolutely not. Should it be done? Positively not. Would I allow it? Definitely not,” the Post reported Thompson as saying.

Albanese alleged that Thompson was trying to give the Muslim community the impression that he was against spying, and give the Orthodox Jewish community the sense he was for it.

“You have to say the same thing wherever you go,” Al-

banese said.

Thompson fired back immediately, yelling that the retired councilman had failed to listen to what he had said.

“You need to pay better attention at these panels!” Thompson said. “I said the exact same thing there I said tonight!”

Capital New York cited a video of the Muslim forum to note that Thompson had indeed modified his stance later that evening.

“I think we’re all concerned, are people following legitimate leads? That’s one thing,” Thompson said at the time. “They were following nothing. There were no leads. There was no information. The NYPD, I’m sure at the direction of its commissioner, in fact, just infiltrated just because. They weren’t following anything.”

But Albanese’s own statement on the surveillance issue was hardly any different from the one Thompson gave that night, saying he would require the police to adhere to the guidelines of the Handschu Agreement, which bans indiscriminate spying by the NYPD, allowing monitoring only in cases of suspected criminal activity, and only with a warrant.

“In my administration, we’re going to follow the law,” said Albanese.

The controversy over the NYPD’s monitoring of mosques first broke out in 2011, when the Associated Press reported that the department was photographing and recording Muslims throughout the tri-state area, and was paying moles to report on activities in bookstores and mosques. The program failed to turn up any leads, but police Commissioner Ray Kelly and Mayor Bloomberg defended the practice.

Thompson isn’t the first politician to be accused of flip-flopping on the police department’s right to monitor mosques depending on where he was talking. Last October, state Sen. Marty Golden told a mostly Muslim audience he was opposed to the practice — just months after signing a letter praising Kelly’s anti-terror efforts.

## G-TRAIN...

Continued from page 1

Greenpoint, asks his friends how they keep their toned physiques. It then flashes to Adeboye getting a workout by running down a subway platform to catch a train, stretching to hold the ceiling when the train is too crowded to hold a pole, and walking miles out of her way when she arrives at the Greenpoint stop, only to find the G train

is not running.

In real life, the 36-year old Adeboye lives by the Myrtle-Willoughby stop in Bedford-Stuyvesant. She said the goofy video was dreamed up during a Riders Alliance strategy meetings, when members discussed their experiences sprinting for the train.

The Alliance says it has been urging the Metropolitan

Transportation Authority to make changes to the cross-town line — the only subway line that never forces Brooklynites to suffer the indignity of traveling through Manhattan. Earlier this year, the group made a list of demands for an improved G train, including more frequent service and better communication about service changes. The group also wants free, above-ground transfers between the G train’s Broadway stop and the J and M trains at Haves Street, which shuttle commuters to Manhattan, and between the G’s Fulton Street stop and the many trains at the Atlantic, Barclays Center, and Pacific stations.

Together with state senators Daniel Squadron (D-Brooklyn Heights) and Martin Dilan (D-Bedford-Stuyvesant), the group convinced the state agency to study ridership on the G and determine how it can improve service. The MTA said it expects to release the results in June.

In the meantime, the Riders Alliance wants to increase its membership. Hence, the video.

“They are going to have their press release and their report, and we want to make sure that the whole story will be told,” said Matt Green who also stars in the movie.

The video was first uploaded last Thursday. On Wednesday, the group released the results of a four-question poll of G riders that the group claims determined that 60 percent of riders have experienced the “G-train sprint” to catch the four-car train.

## DOMINO...

Continued from page 1

happy with the plan to build high-priced rentals around the Domino Sugar Factor.

Beaming the words “Buy Back Domino” and “Ka-Boom” on the side of the landmarked edifice that once processed more than half the sugar used in the United States, the activists are hoping to convince the public to donate enough money to help the group Williamsburg Independent People buy back the property from Two Trees Management and build a cultural center that would include a museum, hotel, and well-below-market rate housing on the site.

“We have commitments to do this from people who believe in our vision of an alternate plan to develop Domino,” said Leah Kreger, who organized the protest.

About three dozen people came to the protest.

Kreger said the money from

the hotel and museum would be enough to be able to offer the housing at 100 percent of the Williamsburg area median income of \$38,000. She wouldn’t say how much money the group has raised so far, but claimed it would be in able to make the offer soon.

Two Trees bought the site last year for \$185 million and plans to spend up to 15 years developing several buildings as offices, retail spaces and housing.

Two Trees is unlikely to entertain buyout offers.

“Our vision for Domino has broad community support because it delivers affordable housing, brings thousands of jobs to the long dormant, preserved factory building, and adds acres of desperately needed open space, and because we have the ability and desire to deliver these benefits as soon as possible,” said company spokesman Jeremy Soffin.

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# SCENTS...

Continued from page 1

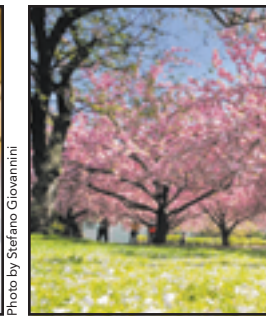
authentic scents, can sometimes smell like the actual subway.

**2. “Acqua Di... whoah” in honor of the Gowanus, Coney Island Creek, Newtown Creek**

The borough is famous for its putrid waterways, but these three toxic-green

streams truly stand out due to the likelihood that a few innocent whiffs may cause physical damage. The trio of tributaries shares the standard moldy odor of urban rivers, but with an added twist that includes old wood, stray cats, and the sad, salty tears of a misguided dolphin.

**3. “Bodega Musk” in**



Nathan’s hot dogs have a classic Brooklyn smell. So does the Botanic Garden.

**honor of that place with the incense near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Atlantic Avenue**

Where does that smell come from, and why? We can’t find the name of the store online, but one of our reporters bikes through this area of Bed-Stuy frequently, and finds it the most noticeably incense-filled place in Brooklyn. Is it a yoga studio? A head shop? A secret passageway to India?

**4. “Disphoria” by Calvin Brine in honor of the Morgan stop on the L**

Top notes of feet; midnotes of pot; basenotes of rat droppings. This place is a cesspool for the senses. Unless you’re a dog. If you’re a dog who likes to smell of butt, it’s a fragrant feast! But to us humans, even when it hasn’t rained for days, this place smells wet ... or like a sweet onion chicken teriyaki on honey oat (sorry Subway).

**7. “Eau De Wiener” in honor of Coney Island**

The ocean, the hotdogs. Nowhere else does it better. But let’s break it down a little bit, even if it’s a cliché. The smell that draws you to Nathan’s isn’t the dogs at all - it’s the French fries. French fries, like popcorn, are a cheap, but intoxicating smell, a smell that vacillates wildly between nauseating and alluring. The fries draw you in, but it’s when you get close that you notice that meat smell. It’s richer and rounder. You smell the vinegar from the ketchup, and the sting of the mustard, and the wild base of caramelized onion. So you buy a hot dog, and you get some flat coke, which smells exactly like tap water. Beer evaporates off the boardwalk. You go to the beach. It doesn’t smell like table salt - it smells like salt that is actually alive, salt that grew from a plant in the ground. And old Russians smoke. Enterprising young Russians sell knishes from towel to towel.

# The Brooklyn Paper

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

# PARENT

## Letting my kids make decisions

Households are typically not democracies. Parents are despots, tyrants, or, at best, benevolent dictators. And so it goes. The world is run by adults.

But, then, where’s the line? When do kids learn to make choices? For fear of being lambasted on Gawker as one of those permissive Park Slope moms, I say offering up limited choices early is best. Practice makes perfect, and kids need to learn their own mind while still under the watchful eye of parents.

Recently, my baby (at 9, he is still that to me,) went to get glasses. The salesgirl rifled through the drawers

pulling out pair after pair, metal and plastic, dark and serious, bright and silly, and somewhere in between.

“Which ones do you like?” she asked him.

He tried them on and stared at his newly framed eyes in the mirror.

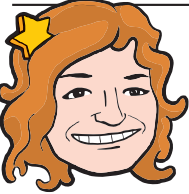
Squinting through the glass, since it didn’t yet carry his prescription, he moved his mouth from side to side.

“Maybe...” he said of one pair I didn’t particularly like.

“Put them in the pile,” she said.

The “maybe” pile grew. Of course, I threw in my two cents.

“Love those. I can still see



### Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

your face,” or “No. Way too serious.”

Oscar seemed to listen to me but he knew what he thought and wasn’t afraid to say. He knew, in the end, it was his decision. And it was. The new gun-metal frames with funky orange at the sides are on order. I preferred another pair, but so be it. I don’t have to wear them.

It saves a lot of arguments in our house that the kids get to decide at least some of their fate. Recently, my eldest said something about how I’d been the one to pick his middle school, MS 447. He loves it, so it wouldn’t have been a fight necessarily if I’d actually been the one to decide. But I’m positive I let him make the choice.

“No,” I said. “I distinctly

did not. I let you decide.”

He can add this well-made choice to a long list of others, including his decision to start writing his metaphorical poem days before it is due, and his decision to leave a playdate early to go help kids learn chess.

“I am so proud of you, for making such good choices,” I tell him often. “I’m so impressed.”

And I am. I’m impressed with how young it is that children are capable of making good choices on their own if we despots get off our thrones and let them, if we guide them to be their own best guide.

Of course, sometimes it backfires. There are days

when Oscar chooses to not bring a jacket despite my suggestion, and he hugs his little arms around himself, frigid in the cold. Or when his stomach hurts from the \$10 worth of loose candy he consumed a fair bit of in one sitting. Eli might choose fun over homework, and be forced to cram days worth of work into one long night. Or not eat breakfast and regret it in the long hours before lunch.

But I am happy to say they can’t blame me, and so they might learn something about what they might want to do differently next time.

That’s life. There are ramifications to choices, and the sooner we let our kids figure them out, the better.

**5. “Flowers and Sweat” in honor of The Brooklyn Botanic Garden and surrounding neighborhoods, in the summer**

Walking in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in the summer feels oddly tropical. Because it’s surrounded by the city, the grounds are warmer than any natural woods, and the smell of pollen is vulgar. It’s hard to separate the heat from the smell, because both feel dangerous. In nearby Prospect Lefferts Gardens, the air is humid enough that you’re never quite sure if it’s raining, and the petrichor mingles with the West Indian doubles and jerk chicken and sidewalk barbecue. Another theory about that mingle - all the stores seem to have fans here, so the coffee shop pushes its air into the Italian vegan ice cream place and the hair salons and the gentrifying bar. Oh, and - while this isn’t an article about Brooklyn’s iconic SOUNDS - let us not forget that this neighborhood is steps away from the Prospect Park drummer’s grove. This is the sexiest area in all of Brooklyn. If only there was a Prospect Park lead singer’s grove.

**8. “Bay Ridge Breeze” in honor of the Hookah Smoke at the Bay Ridge Avenue subway stop**

There are three or four hookah bars near the Bay Ridge Avenue subway stop. So imagine tobacco. Then add any flavor you want: pistachio. Coconut. Apricot. Orange. The hookah smoke can be disorienting when you first smell it, because you wonder what kind of dessert is burning. Then you end up craving creme brulee.

**9. “Home” in honor of Greenpoint Bread Baking**

It’s 3 a.m. in north Greenpoint. You are walking off the Pulaski Bridge. The twinkling Manhattan skyline disappears behind a warehouse. It’s the end of the day: drunk hipsters are stumbling home, sweating alcohol (which smells a lot like bacon and whiskey-infused pretentiousness). It’s the beginning of the day: in Polish bakeries all across Greenpoint, bread is baking and it smells like home. Or Brooklyn.

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## SIGN...

Continued from page 1

been able to put burger to grill since the owners put a “closed” sign in September of 2007 and never came back.

In December, the website

Eater reported the Art Deco eatery who’s name reminds Brooklynites that, yes, they do live on Long Island, will be run by a team of fancy restaurateurs from Manhattan.

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